(iii) A depositor may open only one account under this scheme minimum deposit being Rs. 1000/-.

(iv) A depositor may at his option, withdraw the entire balance or part thereof after the expiry of 3 years from the date of deposit.

(v) Deposit carry interest @ 9% per annum. The interest earned on the deposit is exempt from income tax.

(vi) Premature withdrawal is allowed after expiry of one year from the date of deposit, subject to conditions indicated in the scheme.

(vii) The whole of amount of deposits under this scheme is exempt from wealth tax.

The notification was laid on the Table of the House on 21st July, 1989.

Selection to the post of JMGS-I in State Bank of India

2068. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the mode of selection to the post of JMGS-I from amongst SC/ST departmental candidate in the State Bank of India branches in New Delhi and also in the Local Head Office in New Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Effect of forest policy on the ivory works in Assam

2069. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the ivory work has been a traditional craft in Assam and large number of families especially in Borpeta district subsist on this craft;

(b) whether it is a fact that this traditional craft earning fair name for Assam through fine ivory products has been in doldrum due to Central Government's Forests Policy making elephants and their tusks a national property; and

(c) if so whether Government propose to make provision for the availability of elephants tusks to the artisans through property channel so that the valuable craft remains alive and artisans may earn livelihood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SMT. SUMATI ORAON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Trade in Indian ivory is banned under the provision of the Wild Life (protection) Act, 1972 in order to conserve the population in elephants in India. Import of raw African ivory is permitted free of custom duty as alternative raw material for manufacturers of ivory articles.

Appointment of Chairman, Brahmaputra Board

2070. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Secretary of the North-Eastern Council is currently holding additional charge as the Chairman of the Brahmaputra Board;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to appoint a technically resourceful personnel as Chairman of the Board; and

(d) if so, by when the appointment is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir,